

## Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 EA-06 L-02 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 /077 W  
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O 281045Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2514

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJ: VISIT OF EXIM BANK OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 18996

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES PROPOSED VISIT EXIM OFFICIALS NORRIS-MORAN. WE BELIEVE THIS DIRECT APPROACH TO POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN USG AND UAEG IN THIRD COUNTRY FINANCING IS EXACTLY WAY TO PROCEED. EMBASSY HAS MADE APPOINTMENT FOR NORRIS AND MORAN MEET WITH HASSAN ABBAS ZAKI, HEAD ABU DHABI FUND FOR ARAB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (ADFAED) MORNING FEB 1 AND WILL ALSO SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

2. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED LETTER FROM EXIM CHAIRMAN CASEY AND, WHILE WELCOMING RAPID AND POSITIVE RESPONSE WHICH IT AND PROPOSED VISIT REFLECT, WE NOT CERTAIN THAT PROJECT PROPOSED THEREIN IS BEST CHOICE FOR FIRST AND SUCH EFFORT AT USG-UAEG COOPERATION. WE SEE TWO MAIN PROBLEMS:

(A) FIRST FROM STANDPOINT SOMEWHAT CAUTIOUS UAEG FOREIGN POLICY, REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS PROBABLY TOO CLOSELY IDENTIFIED ON ONE HAND AS POLITICAL ALLY OF USG; AND (B) TAIWAN WOULD PROBABLY NOT QUALIFY  
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IN UAE EYES AS LDC, THUS RULING OUT ASSISTANCE AT LEAST FROM ADFAED.

3. IN TERMS OF SEEKING ALTERNATIVE, AS WE HAVE REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF UAE (READ ABU DHABI) ASSISTANCE IS TOWARD (A) QUOTE CONFRONTATION STATES UNQUOTE OF EGYPT AND SYRIA; (B) OTHER ARAB AND ISLAMIC COUNTRIES; AND (C) QUOTE FRIENDLY UNQUOTE BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES. BEYOND THIS ABU DHABI COULD BE RECEPTIVE TO PROJECTS IN LDC'S GENERALLY BUT THEY WILL FAVOR ABOVE CATEGORIES. PROJECTS IN NON LDC'S MORE DIFFICULT WITH ABU DHABI ASSISTANCE TO DATE IN SUCH CASES BEING IN FORM DIRHAM DENOMINATED LOANS. WHILE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE IT BE BOTH EASIER AND POLITICALLY PREFERABLE TO START WITH SOMETHING OTHER THAN TAIWAN PROJECT. WE SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY PROPOSED US SUPPLIER (FROM STANDPOINT AVOIDING CONFLICT WITH ARAB BOYCOTT LIST) BEFORE WE WILL GET UAEG AGREEMENT OF SUPPORT.

4. EMBASSY NOTES REFTTEL THAT NORRIS AND MORAN WANT TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS (PLURAL) AND WE THEREFORE HOPE THAT THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBILITIES WITH WHICH WE CAN AT LEAST LEAD OFF. EVEN IF DISCUSSION IS CONFINED TO GENERAL OUTLINE OF HOW COOPERATION MIGHT WORK-  
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WITH EXAMPLES FROM ARRANGEMENTS MADE WITH OTHER ARAB OIL PRODUCERS SUCH AS KUWAIT--WE BELIEVE VISIT SHOULD BE MOST USEFUL. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT ADFAED MAY WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN PROJECT ALREADY SUGGESTED TO KFAED.

5. EMBASSY WILL ARRANGE ACCOMMODATIONS (POSSIBLY IN HOME AS HOTELS EXTREMELY TIGHT) AND CONFIRM ONWARD FLIGHTS AS REQUESTED.  
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